

From: Bob Crites
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/19/02 5:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am opposed to the proposed settlement with Microsoft. I am not employed in the software or computer business. I do not own stock in any software or computer company. I just buy and use the products.

Microsoft has been found guilty of conducting illegal acts to maintain its monopoly of personal computer operating systems. But there does not seem to be even a light penalty for their behavior. There is nothing that I have read which would keep them from repeating the acts which lead to their conviction.

The settlement is so mild as to be almost humorous. But those of us who are consumers of software are not laughing. The monopoly which led them to something like 90 per cent of the market almost completely destroyed all other personal computing operating systems, and discouraged inventive software writers from creating new software.

A fair and effective resolution of this matter must provide incentives for Microsoft to comply with the law. No one believes they will become good citizens unless forced to.

Respectfully submitted,

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